

PSC Asked to Fix Taxicab Fares in Montgomery

Commissioners Act In Dispute ver County Ordinance

The Montgomery County commissioners have agreed to ask the Maryland Public Service Commission to fix taxicab rates in the county.

The action was taken by the board yesterday in response to a recommendation by County Public Utilities Agent Albert E. Conradi.

It was the latest move in the battle between taxicab owners and county authorities over the latter's attempt to regulate cab operations under an ordinance adopted about a year ago.

In a ruling several months ago, the Circuit Court rejected a demurrer by Mr. Conradi to a suit challenging constitutionality of the ordinance. As a result of the opinion, taxicab operators have contended the ordinance is void and recently increased their rates. The final decision on the suit has been handed down, however.

Mr. Conradi told the board taxicabs are "common carriers" and are subject to the authority of the Maryland Public Service Commission. He claimed the commission has power to set cab rates.

200 Drivers Affected.

Declaring both the public and taxicab operators "are entitled to have equitable rates of fare," Mr. Conradi said the Public Service Commission would hold public hearings at no expense to the county and would set the rates. Approximately 200 cab drivers are affected, Mr. Conradi added.

In other business, the commissioners received a recommendation from their attorney, F. Bernard Welsh, that they rescind the permit they granted two weeks ago for the operation of a kindergarten in the Takoma Park Municipal Building. The board took no action, however.

Mr. Welsh made the suggestion after Mrs. Alma Opal of Takoma Park demanded that the permit be revoked on the ground a hearing was not held on the application and safety, health and fire inspections had not been made. Board members told Mrs. Opal the permit had been issued "temporarily" pending the necessary inspections.

County Supervisor Irving G. McNay then asked Mrs. Opal what her "real" interest was in the matter.

Repeating Job Deferred.

Mrs. Opal replied she was interested only in "good government" and threatened legal action unless the permit was revoked.

J. O. Harvey, county roads supervisor, reported work is being held up on the repaving of Jones Bridge, read from Connecticut, avenue to East-West highway because of the insistence of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission on a 100-foot right-of-way along the 2-mile stretch.

Mr. Harvey said an 80-foot right-of-way had been planned by the county. He estimated cost at about \$50,000. The commissioners said they would meet with commission officials in an attempt to reach a solution.

After Mr. McNay asked the board what disposition should be made of the county's alms house, in view of the fact there is only one inmate there now, the county heads decided to continue operating the home and 140-acre farm until next spring, when it will be advertised for rent.

Resignations Accepted.

The following resignations were accepted:

Andrew J. Keesner as purchasing agent for parking lots in the Silver Spring business district, Charles D. Stubbs as an instrument man in the county engineer's office and Newton F. Butts from the controller's office.

A request by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission for authority to issue \$200,000 in bonds was approved, despite opposition by Commissioner Wesley I. Sauter.

Taken under advisement was a request by Mayor G. Lamar Kelly of Rockville for county co-operation in extending Jefferson and Sterling roads and Maryland avenue in the town in a move to alleviate traffic congestion on East Montgomery avenue.

A proposal to build concrete curbs and gutters on both sides of Heron drive and Heron court, Silver Spring, at an estimated cost of \$7,550, was approved.

A hearing was scheduled for 11 a.m. October 26 in the Rockville Courthouse on a petition for curbs and gutters along Lorain avenue and resurfacing of the street for a distance of 386 feet north of Sterling road, Silver Spring. Cost was estimated at \$3,500.

The commissioners authorized sidewalks on both sides of Baltimore avenue from River road to Glen Cove parkway, Bethesda, at a cost of about \$4,600.

Fairfax Soroptimists to Dine.

The Soroptimist Club of Fairfax County will hold a dinner meeting at 7 o'clock tonight at the Courthouse Country Club in Fairfax. Miss Ella Werner, regional director of the American Federation of Soroptimist Clubs, will speak.

Elected School Board Proposal Backed by County PTA Council

A proposed bill calling for an elected County Board of Education, to be presented at the 1949 session of the General Assembly, today received the approval of the Montgomery County Council of Parent-Teacher Associations. Board members now are appointed by the Governor.

After endorsing the proposed measure at its meeting last night in the Lynbrook School, Bethesda, the council directed that it be submitted to the organization's 35-member groups for any changes they may want to make.

Council President Nathan R. Gilbert said today practically all of the county Parent-Teacher Associations already have approved such a proposal "in principle."

The bill would increase the School Board membership from six to seven and provides for a referendum in the November, 1950, election. If approved by the voters, a special election would be held the following month to elect the first board members, with two additional members to be elected every two years.



RED FEATHERS FOR COMMUNITY CHEST DRIVE—Leon Chetlain, Jr., president of the Washington Board of Trade, presents red feathers, the symbol of the Community Chest's campaign, to Capital Airline Hostesses Jeanne Rittenhouse, 1800 Abingdon drive, Alexandria, and Frances Taylor, Jefferson Gardens, Alexandria. The drive opens officially on October 7. —Star Staff Photo.

Municipalities League Barney House Chosen In Virginia Tables Plea For Utility Rate Review

By the Associated Press.

OLD POINT COMFORT, Va., Sept. 29.—Leslie T. Fox, Mayor of Portsmouth, has been elected president of the Virginia League of Municipalities. Joseph C. Biggins, city manager of Newport News, is the new president of the Virginia section of the International City Managers' Association.

Their election took place yesterday as the League of Municipalities ended its 43rd annual convention and the City Managers' Association met in conjunction with it.

In the League of Municipalities sessions a proposed resolution to ask the State Corporation Commission to review annually the public utilities rates in Virginia was tabled.

The league adopted a substitute motion, turning the original proposal over to a utilities committee of the league.

Dugan Hits Commission.

Under the substitute plan, a further provision is made to the effect that the utilities group shall, after proper study, report its findings to the executive committee of the league.

Commenting on the utilities motion, Daniel A. Dugan, chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Arlington County, said: "The State Corporation Commission, in my opinion, is not concerned with the welfare of consumers in Virginia."

Mr. Dugan made this statement to a group meeting of mayors and councilmen Monday, and he spoke in defense of the utilities motion as originally presented yesterday.

The league adopted a resolution providing that in the event a sales tax should go into effect in Virginia, "all proceeds over and above the cost of collections be returned to the localities on a per capita basis to be expended by those governments for schools or for other purposes."

Alexandria Elected.

Other municipal officers elected yesterday included: Mayor William H. Hafford, Alexandria, first vice president; Councilman J. Hudson Hafford, Bluefield, second vice president; Councilman Joseph C. Biggins, Newport News, third vice president; Councilman J. Ralston Silling, Staunton, fourth vice president; and the following Executive Committee: Mayor W. C. Fitzpatrick, Farmville, retiring president; Mayor M. B. Clowe, Jr., Winchester, and Councilman James D. Patton, Richmond.

I. G. Vass, city manager of Waynesboro, was elected vice president of the City Managers' Association. The organization appointed the following national committee: W. Frank Chapman, Salem city manager, and S. Lee Grant, Winchester city manager.

Harold I. Baumes was re-elected executive secretary and treasurer.

County Bar Association Elects S. M. Peach

Attorney S. Marvin Peach of Hyattsville is the new president of the Prince Georges County Bar Association.

Mr. Peach, who maintains law offices in Hyattsville and Upper Marlboro, was elected yesterday during the annual meeting of the bar group in the County Courthouse, Upper Marlboro. He succeeds Mr. Hampton Magruder of Upper Marlboro.

Ralph W. Powers of Largo, who maintains an office in Hyattsville, was named vice president of the group, while Alan Bowie, one of the county's three trial magistrates, was re-elected secretary-treasurer a post he has held since founding of the organization about 40 years ago. Judge Bowie's home is in Brandywine.

Trusty Who Fleed Lorton Now Back in Custody

A Lorton Reformatory trusty, who ran away from the institution's farm yesterday, is back in custody today after about eight hours of freedom.

The convict, identified as Willie Lee Johnson, 25, colored, walked off the farm adjoining Lorton yesterday afternoon. Johnson had served two months of a sentence of from 10 months to three years for forgery.

The convict was picked up shortly before midnight last night on the road between Alexandria and Washington by W. F. Fleming, superintendent of the District Workhouse, and A. C. Paison, assistant superintendent of the reformatory, who were searching for him.

Alexandria PTA to Meet

The new Parent-Teacher Association of George Washington High School, Alexandria, will hold its first fall meeting at 8 p.m. tomorrow at the school.

Schools Refuse To Subsidize A. B. & W. Boost

Arlington Board Cites Added Cost; Bus Firm Discounts Figure

The Arlington County School Board last night decided it cannot subsidize a 2½-cent increase which the Alexandria, Barcroft & Washington Transit Co. will place into effect on some of its lines next month.

The question of subsidies was placed before the board by Lester R. Conley, member of the Arlington Public Utilities Commission, who said that A. B. & W. plans to charge pupils 7½ cents on some of its bus trips.

The A. B. & W. today, however, discounted the size of the increase, stating that 18 of its buses are used for school transportation. Of these, only seven buses, or 14 daily trips, will be affected, the company said. At 40 passengers per bus this would cost only \$14 more a day or \$2,520 a school year, the company contends. Mr. Conley said the figure probably would be higher than that.

Conley Sees Future Increase.

At last night's meeting Mr. Conley said it would cost about \$60,000 more a year if both the A. B. & W. and the Washington, Virginia & Maryland Coach Co. increased their fares by 2½ cents for all students using the bus systems.

Mr. Conley explained that the A. B. & W. is exercising its authority under the State Corporation Commission to charge 7½ cents for children on off-route runs. Mr. Conley said that if the board subsidized the A. B. & W. passengers the county could expect a similar request later from W. V. & M. The board said it was greatly increased. The board said it was financially unable to take on the new subsidy program.

Votes to Continue Fare Plan.

It adopted a motion to continue paying fares for fifth and sixth grade pupils who live in Glenclary, but must be transported to the Matthew Maury School, in the 3500 block of Wilson boulevard. This subsidy, at the rate of 5 cents per pupil passenger, goes to W. V. & M.

Heretofore, the board also has subsidized pupil service from Arna Valley to the school on North Twenty-fourth street, and from Virginia Highlands to Washington-Lee High School on North Thirtieth street. These, presumably, will be discontinued.

All the subsidies have been covered by \$2,500 a year. The board decided to defer consideration of a proposal to open schools half an hour earlier. Mr. Conley said there is no immediate solution to problems caused by bus traffic congestion at 8 a.m.

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\$2.75 Pay Scale Authorized.

A pay scale of \$2.75 an hour was ordered for teachers instructing pupils who are confined to their homes by illness. Fletcher Kemp had recommended \$3.

John L. Harlan, 4722 North Twenty-sixth street, protested the board's plans to place a temporary building at Twenty-sixth street and Old Dominion drive, and presented a petition of citizens supporting his view. The board said, however, that no other site could be used and assured Mr. Harlan the building will be made as attractive as possible. Members added it will be moved when practicable.

The petition also said "it is apparent that the building will be of such temporary nature and appearance as to be in conflict with the established character of other buildings in this residential zone."

Draftees' and Veterans' Guide

—By Maj. Thomas M. Nial

The draft, in case you've forgotten, aims at two principal goals: To build up the Regular Army from about 550,000 to about 900,000, and to provide a well-trained Reserve force which might be called a "strength in being," ready for any emergency.

The Army is divided into three parts: The Regular Army, the National Guard and the Organized Reserve Corps (ORC).

The last is becoming increasingly important. In view of the draft's No. 2 goal—a Reserve ready for any emergency.

You get talking to Army experts about the ORC and you come away in the middle of a monstrous maze. For instance, the draft act says that any person who on June 24, 1948, was in an organized unit of the National Guard, the Officers' Reserve Corps, the Enlisted Reserve Corps or reserves of the other services (which we'll pass up now) is automatically deferred as long as he keeps up with his drill and training periods.

If you have no military service and, like hundreds of others, you joined an Army reserve unit before June 24 you probably think you will be deferred. From the paragraph above, it certainly would seem so.

But, unless the Army unit you joined was part of the Federally recognized National Guard, you're definitely not deferred. You're as draftable as any nondeferred registrant.

Why?

Army circular 247, dated August 13, contains the answer. It says the only reserve components which qualified as organized units on June 24 are National Guard units which were Federally recognized on or before that date (June 24).

No unit of the ORC, says that circular, qualified as "organized" on June 24. Therefore, no member of such a unit is deferrable (unless, of course, he has had previous service).



PAROCHIAL SCHOOL OPENED—The 10-classroom school of St. James' Catholic Church, Falls Church, built at a cost of \$250,000, which was opened this week. Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary conduct studies from the first through the eighth grades. The building will be dedicated October 10 by Bishop Peter L. Ireton of the Richmond diocese. —Star Staff Photo.

Police Are Confident Of Finding Slayer of 2 Despite Lack of Clues

Despite an apparent dearth of clues, Anne Arundel County police expressed confidence today they will find the slayer of John H. Mahlan, 25, and Mary C. Kline, 18, the Glen Burnie couple shot to death nearly two weeks ago.

With only one man being held for questioning, and he not regarded as a suspect, the reason for Police Chief John H. Souers' optimism was not readily apparent.

"This is a baffling case," he told reporters, "but we have had baffling ones here before, and I am confident we will break this one one of these days."

Chief Souers said he wished to talk further today to a 48-year-old storekeeper picked up yesterday at his store near the corner of Defense and Generals highways, about 4 miles from the place where the bodies were found September 20.

Find Two Pistols.

After locking up the man police returned to the store and found two pistols slightly larger than .30 caliber.

Police have told newsmen they believe the death gun was a .38 and last night broadcast a teletype request asking police of 13 States to be on the lookout for such a weapon.

Mr. Mahlan, a Navy war veteran and postal clerk, and Miss Kline, who had been dating him for two years, were killed the night of Friday, September 17, after they had left for a homicide ride in their car. The car was found 5 miles southeast of Glen Burnie, but the bodies were found in a field near the junction of Defense highway and Chesterfield road, 12 miles away. Each had been shot through the head. The car's front window had a bullet hole. Miss Kline's left shoe was found in the back seat and there was blood in both seats.

City Police Not Active.

Although it was announced earlier a Baltimore homicide squad detective had been assigned to the case, Chief Souers said thus far city police have not been active.

"As soon as all the evidence is assembled, I will want them all in on it," he said. "I'm not interested in solving this case, but I want it solved."

He said he did not think Baltimore police would be much help at this stage of the investigation because they are not familiar with the countryside.

Boy Cyclist, 15, Injured By Bus in Silver Spring

Warren Allen, 15, Hyattsville, suffered a possible fractured skull and leg injuries yesterday when struck by a Capital Transit Co. bus while riding his bicycle at Franklin avenue and Old Bladensburg road, Silver Spring.

He was taken to Washington Sanitarium, Takoma Park, by the Silver Spring Rescue Squad.

3 in Family Killed By Truck While Going to Church

By the Associated Press

ROANOKE, Va., Sept. 29.—A mother and two of her children were killed last night at Troutville when they were struck by a truck as they walked along the highway in the rain to church.

The victims were Mrs. Edna Ann Basham, 45, wife of a Roanoke filling station operator; her 14-year-old son, Donald Basham, and 12-year-old daughter, Margaret Basham, State police said.

Another son, Robert Basham, 10, was injured.

Mrs. Basham and her daughter Margaret were killed outright. Donald died in an ambulance en route to a hospital here.

The father, W. E. Basham, said his wife and children had just left the house, and were walking to church to attend a baptism.

\$30,000 Fire Sweeps Farm at White Oak

Fire last night destroyed two barns containing hay, grain, farm machinery, a quantity of tires and a truck on the farm of Dr. C. J. Laughlin at White Oak, Md. Dr. Laughlin estimated the loss at between \$30,000 and \$40,000.

Two hogs in one of the barns, which were about 10 feet apart, also were burned to death. Dr. Laughlin said about 35 cattle and two horses were saved. He did not know how the fire started.

A visitor, identified by Dr. Laughlin as Mr. Baldwin of Alexandria, suffered a slight heart attack while helping bring the cattle and horses to safety. He was treated at the scene by volunteer firemen and then drove home.

Dr. Laughlin, a veterinarian, said his brother, John M. Laughlin, was showing some cattle to a group of prospective buyers in the basement of one of the barns when J. J. Clatterback, a farm employee, discovered the fire.

Responding to the blaze were the Silver Spring, Hillandale and Glen Echo Volunteer Fire Departments and equipment from the nearby Naval Ordnance Laboratory.

Dr. Laughlin said the barns were partially covered by insurance.

County to Open 100th School at Fort Washington

Prince Georges County's 100th school—a two-room temporary structure at Fort Washington—will be opened for classes Friday.

The new school, an administration building at Fort Washington when it was an Army post during World War II, will be attended by about 50 children. About half of these live in homes located within the fort and leased through Government Services, Inc. The rest live in the surrounding area.

William S. Schmidt, assistant superintendent of schools in the county, announced yesterday the structure was loaned to the county by the Federal Government to relieve crowded conditions at the Oxon Hill Elementary School. Six grades, three in each classroom, will be taught there, he reported.

Present plans call for the building to be used only this year, Mr. Schmidt said. When the new senior high school at Oxon Hill, now under construction, is completed the present high school will be converted to lower grade use, thus relieving overcrowding and making use of the Fort Washington school unnecessary, he explained.

Jewish Chaplain Here Promoted by Army

Rabbi Henry Tavel, Jewish chaplain of the military district of Washington, was honored yesterday at a luncheon by the Jewish Welfare Board on his recent promotion to lieutenant colonel in the Regular Army.

Assigned to the office of the Army Chief of Chaplains, Col. Tavel is the first Jewish rabbi to hold this rank in the Regular Army. Samuel D. Gershovitz, executive director of the National Jewish Welfare Board, extended greetings for the national president.

The luncheon was held at Jewish Welfare Board headquarters, 1637 Massachusetts avenue N.W., and was attended by more than 50 representatives of Jewish organizations.

Church Choir Sponsors Silver Spring Program

The Chancel Choir of the Woodside Methodist Church, Silver Spring, will sponsor a musical program at 8:15 p.m. tomorrow and Friday in the Social Hall.

The program will include selections by the Woodside Male Chorus, directed by Harrison T. Meserole, an operatic "Windmills of Holland," directed by Dorothy R. Emery, and vocal and violin duets.

Fire Escape Contract For Almshouse at Ritchie Awarded

Installation of a fire escape at the county almshouse at Ritchie, Md., a move recommended numerous times by Prince Georges County grand juries, was authorized yesterday by the Prince Georges County commissioners.

Carrying out earlier recommendations to safeguard inmates of the almshouse against fire, the commissioners awarded a contract to the Acme Iron Works of Washington for installing the fire escape at a cost of \$797.

Parking Lot Contract.

Hard-surfacing of the parking lot in rear of the County Courthouse in Upper Marlboro also was authorized yesterday by the commissioners during their weekly session at the county seat. In this connection, a contract was awarded the firm of Eugene Chaney of Upper Marlboro, lowest of two bidders, to do the work at an agreed unit price per cubic yard.

In other business, the commissioners adhered to a plea of a delegation of about 20 women, most of them members of homemakers' clubs of the county, to provide funds to employ an assistant county home demonstration agent and a full-time secretary in that office.

\$2,000 Pledged.

The commissioners agreed to appropriate \$2,000 in next year's budget for July 1, 1949, as partial pay for the two appointments. Remaining funds will come from State sources, the commissioners were told.

When appointed, the two home-maker assistants will work in the office of Miss Ethel M. Regan, county home demonstration agent, whose office is in the Professional Building, Hyattsville. Their appointments also were recommended by the Beltsville Grange and the Marlboro Lions Club. Mrs. Joseph Blandford of Brandwine was spokesman for yesterday's delegation.

Selection of Berlin H. Allen of the Oakcrest subdivision, Laurel, as a forest warden for the Maryland Department of State Forests and Parks also was approved.

Parking Meter Fight Court Arguments Due

The question of whether Hyattsville city officials will be permitted to install parking meters along business streets of the community may be decided today in the Prince Georges County Circuit Court.

Arguments were slated to be heard there on a demurrer and motion filed Monday by Hyattsville City Attorney Nicholas Orem, Jr., seeking to dismiss a temporary injunction, obtained September 16 by a group of Hyattsville merchants.

Installation of 200 parking meters has been stymied since that injunction and another temporary one obtained a day earlier by owners of the Queens Chapel shopping center, West Hyattsville, were signed by Circuit Court Judge Charles C. Marbury.

No answer has been filed with the court against the second injunction, although such a reply was authorized Monday night by the community's Mayor and City Council.

The injunction up for consideration today was obtained by a group of seven Hyattsville business and professional men. The group, through their attorneys, Hervey G. Machen and T. Edwin Hutchinson, contend that charging a fee for use of a public highway would violate State motor vehicle laws.

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Medicine Needs Family Doctors, Society Is Told

Impact of Psychiatry Seen as Altering Medical Teaching

By George Beveridge

Present-day medical science must brace itself for "a fresh start" and return to the old-fashioned philosophy of the family doctor.

This is the advice of Dr. William S. McCann of the University of Rochester Medical School, who also predicted, in an address before the District Medical Society Scientific Assembly, that the day is coming when the medical student "will receive part of his training in the home, as in the olden days."

Speaking on "Trends in Medical Education," Dr. McCann told doctors at the assembly's final-day meeting that the medical profession must revise the basis of its service to include a strong corps of "family doctors" who are willing "to go into the homes of people."

Must Go to Homes.

"It is not enough to have a specialist in pediatrics in a clinic to immunize babies against infection," Dr. McCann declared. "The doctor must go to the home himself, or else we must train our social workers to be doctors."

The reason, Dr. McCann said, is that the practice of medicine and the "impact of psychiatry" can no longer be separated.

This impact, he said, "unquestionably will alter the whole structure" of teaching in medical schools.

Since Freud made the medical profession aware that origins of most emotional troubles are to be found in childhood and the family, "how can we consider any form of organization of medical service which does not have at its foundation a corps of family doctors?" he asked.

Along with the growing importance of treating nonhospitalized patients, Dr. McCann said, "one may confidently expect that this movement will continue until the medical student again receives part of his training in the home, as in the olden days."

Attacks Medical Boards.

In an unusual attack on the power of national medical boards which certify doctors as specialists, Dr. McCann said the rigid training requirements laid down by these groups also can be blamed partially for inadequacies in medical school teaching.

Some regrouping of these specialties is essential, if the specialists are to adapt themselves to changing trends in medicine, the physician went on.

"No matter how they resist this change," he added, "their survival demands it."

Doctors have been slow to recognize, Dr. McCann declared, that it is good preventive medicine, and much cheaper, to carry out diagnostic studies on patients who do not have to be housed, fed and nursed in hospitals. A remedy, he added, is to extend benefits "of group hospitalization insurance to group diagnostic studies of the ambulatory patient."

Scheele Speaks.

In another address, Dr. Leonard A. Scheele, surgeon general of the United States Public Health Service, told the doctors that the major steps in public health during the next few years will be toward control of chronic diseases that particularly affect older people.

While life expectancy at birth jumped 16 years between 1900 and 1946, he pointed out, "we have done very little to deal with the major problems of adults. All of the new medical knowledge and skills have added only two and a half years to the life expectancy of the 40-year-olds."

In a luncheon this afternoon, sponsored by the Georgetown Medical Alumni Association, the Rev. John Tracy Ellis, of Catholic University, will address the assembly on "Price of Freedom." This afternoon's final scientific session will center on discussions of gout, infertility and allergies.

Two Honored.

At the society's annual dinner last night, Dr. Arthur C. Christie, radiologist, and Dr. Joseph S. Wall, pediatrician, were honored by the group for their long service to the community. Author-Commentator Morgan Beatty was the principal speaker.

In an address yesterday afternoon, Dr. Russell L. Cecil, professor of medicine at the Cornell University Medical School, said slight injuries of old college football players often come back to haunt them in the form of osteo-arthritis attacks. This is a disease of bones in joints of the body.